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#### 3 December 2018

# Principals Report



As the year comes to an end we look back at all that our school community has achieved over the year with events, fund raising, sporting and academic successes. There are many people to thank for such a successful year.

Firstly thank you to all our dedicated staff. The teachers and school officers at St

Anthony's work tirelessly to ensure our students are well looked after and achieve their best results both in academic and sporting areas. Without this dedication it makes it difficult to provide the high level of support to our students that they receive. I have been blessed this year to have a great team to work with. With our outstanding NAPLAN results and students selected to represent at Peninsular Level we have had an amazing year.

We value our parent body and thank each and every one of our parents for their support of our teachers and the tireless fundraising they do for our school. Thank you to the P and F executives for steering the committee throughout 2018. I know that it is not easy to hold a position and continue to commit when your own lives continue to get busier. Somehow throughout the year you always manage to get it all done. We love you all.

Thank you to the outgoing year 6 students who have performed their roles this year as Leaders of the school. We wish them all the best for High School and hope they continue their association with our school. Keep in touch and let us know how you are going. Farewell to those families who are finishing their time at St Anthony's as their last child graduates on Friday. We will have an opportunity to thank those families on Thursday night at the Graduation Mass.

Congratulations to our elected 2019 St Anthony's Leaders of the school. We will hold a special Mass on Wednesday 30th January to induct our students and celebrate with them. There

are many challenges ahead and we promise to give you all our support to ensure you have a successful year as the Year 6 cohort for 2019.

Each and every student at St Anthony's holds a special place in our hearts and it is with sadness that we farewell some of our families this year. We wish the Kennedy and Cummings families all the best at St Thomas' next year. We will miss Harrison, Georgia, Jack, Jake and Gracie. All the very best at your new school.

We thank Ms Shannon Grantley for her time and dedication as a staff member and parent at St Anthony's. Some of you would have had Shannon at the school for the entire time you have been at St Anthony's and will no doubt have many stories to tell. Please come along this Thursday and farewell Shannon at a morning tea as she embarks on a new and exciting part of her career at St Thomas'.

Unexpectedly we are also announcing that Mr Wilcox will be taking leave in 2019. Maree and Terry have been asked to take up a position as house parents to seven primary school boys from Groote Eylandt. Terry and Maree will be required to live in Julatten for the duration of 2019 to provide stability to these young boys. This has been a difficult decision for Terry to make. We support Terry's decision to assist Maree to undertake this new role. We wish them both the best and know the rewards they will experience will be enormous.

Many of you would know Mrs Buljubasich has worked for many years at St Anthony's . Bernice made the decision earlier this year to take some leave to focus on work at the Community Hospital.

Bernice has made the decision to resign from her position. Lyn Szekely has been keeping the library running in her absence and doing a wonderful job coping with all the system changes introduced by CES this year. Thank you Bernice for your dedication to the school over the years.

Mrs Pretorius is also not returning in 2019. Trudy has been successful in obtaining a teaching position at St Stephens. Trudy has over the years shared her depth of knowledge with the staff and has been a wonderful support to our teachers.

We will miss Trudy and wish her well in her new role supporting students at St Stephens.

As is always the way in schools, depending on the amount of funding, at times we have to wait until next year to see if we have extra hours to employ more staff. We thank Cristina Mahmut, Leandrie Duminy, Sam Stankovich and Tasha Hodges for all their assistance this year. We never say farewell but watch this space as you never know what 2019 brings.

Lastly I would like to wish all families the very best over the holiday season. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to you all. Stay safe and enjoy the time with your precious children.

God Bless.



Kath Porter Principal

## **Upcoming Events**

3 Dec	P/1/2 Liturgy 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM
4 Dec	Year 6 Fun Day Out All day
5 Dec	Yr 6 St Stephen's Transition Day All day
6 Dec	Parents Vs Students Soccer Match 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM
	Ms Grantley's Morning Tea 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM
	Santa Visiting 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM
	End of Year Liturgy 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM
7 Dec	Swimming Pool 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM
	Last Day All day
	School Finishes 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM

## **APRE Report**

#### **Parish Weekend Mass Times**

St Anthony's – Dimbulah – Sunday 8.00am

St Thomas of Villanova – Mareeba – Saturday 6.00pm &

Sunday 10.00am

St Christopher's - Kuranda - Sunday 6.00pm



Dear Parents/Carers,

As we approach the end of another semester and await the arrival of report cards, it is important that we remember not to focus on just the academic achievement, but to acknowledge the social emotional domains and the effort children have made towards achieving all of their learning

targets. The following story highlights the need to embrace people with a range of gifts, talents and backgrounds in order to build tolerance, peace and therefore better citizens.

Once upon a time, all the colours in the world started to quarrel; each claimed that she was the best, the more important, the most useful, the favourite.

Green said: "Clearly I am the most important. I am the sign of life and hope. I was chosen for grass, trees, leaves – without me the animals would die. Look out over the countryside and you will see that I am in the majority."

Blue interrupted: "You only think about the earth, but consider the sky and sea. It is the water that is the basis of life and this is drawn up by the clouds for the blue sea. The sky gives space and peace and serenity. Without my peace you would all be nothing but busybodies."

Yellow chuckled: "You are all so serious. I bring laughter, gaiety and warmth into the world. The sun is yellow, the moon is yellow, the stars are yellow. Every time you look at a sunflower the whole world starts to smile. Without me there would be no fun."

Orange started next to blow her own trumpet: "I am the colour of health and strength. I may be scarce but I am precious for I serve the inner needs of human life. I carry all the most important vitamins. Think of carrots and pumpkins, oranges, mangoes and paw paws. I don't hang around all the time, but when I fill the sky at sunrise and sunset, my beauty is so striking that no one gives another thought to any of you."

Red could stand it no longer. He shouted out: "I am the ruler of you all, blood, life's blood. I am the colour of danger and of bravery. I am willing to fight for a cause. I bring fire in the blood. Without me the earth would be empty as the moon. I am the colour of passion and of love; the red rose, poinsettia and poppy."

Purple rose up to his full height. He was very tall and spoke with great pomp: "I am the colour of royalty and power. Kings, chiefs and bishops have always chosen me for I am a sign of authority and wisdom. People do not question me – they listen and obey."

Indigo spoke much more quietly than all the others, but just as determinedly: "Think of me. I am the colour of silence. You hardly notice me, but without me, you all become superficial. I represent thought and reflection, twilight and deep waters. You need me for balance and contrast, for prayer and inner peace."

And so the colours went on boasting, each convinced that that they were the best. Their quarrelling became louder and louder. Suddenly, there was a startling flash of brilliant white lightning; thunder rolled and boomed. Rain started to pour down relentlessly. The colours all crouched down in fear, drawing close to one another for comfort.

Then rain spoke: "You foolish colours, fighting among yourselves, each trying to dominate the rest. Do you know that God made you all? Each for a special purpose, unique and different. God loves you all. God wants you all. Join hands with one another and come with me.

God will stretch you across the sky in a great bow of colour, as a reminder that God loves you all, that you can live together in peace. A promise that he is with you and a sign of hope for tomorrow.

And so whenever God has used a good rain to wash the world, God puts the rainbow in the sky, and when we see it, let us remember to appreciate one another.

Based on an Indian legend. Written by Anne Hope, 1978



### **End of Year Liturgy**

Just a reminder to all that the end of year Liturgy will take place on Thursday 6th December commencing at 6pm. This is a very special time for our school community where we celebrate and give thanks to our students, staff and families who will be starting a new venture in their life. Everyone is welcome, family and friends, to attend the liturgy.

#### **School Leaders**

Two weeks ago our year 5 students went through the election process of captains for next year. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all our students for presenting exceptional speeches and know that each and every student will represent and lead St Anthony's proudly. Congratulations:

Azali Mitchell – School Captain Riley O'Shea – School Captain Shayla Jerome – Mulligan Sports Captain Jack Yelavich – Mulligan Sports Captain Cayde Miller – Wolfram Sports Captain Ricki Sivyer – Student Council President Hazel Hobden – JJJ President Livinia DiSalvo – Library Monitor

This week sees the end to another amazing year and I would like to thank everyone for their continued support in making Saint Anthony's what it is—a welcoming community for all. Over the holidays enjoy your time with your family and friends and please stay safe. Have a happy and holy Christmas and I wish everyone a prosperous New Year.

Have a wonderful week and in the words of Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop...

"Find happiness in making others happy"



May God's Spirit be with you always Rachelle De Iacovo

## Music with Lynda Irvine

As most of you know last Wednesday was my last day at St Anthony's. It was a bittersweet day. Sad that it was the last day of lessons after 5 years at Dimbulah, for the



foreseeable future. Also I would have loved to be there to watch the new learning initiatives planned for next year be implemented. As an educator, they are going to be amazing and the area is so lucky to have a school at the forefront of new initiatives in primary education. But I am so glad to have met and taught so many in this community. The support I have received has been amazing and I feel I am leaving a legacy of fun, quality music learning that will last all of you a lifetime. I thoroughly enjoyed every day I spent in your company and wish you all well for the future.

Lynda Irvine.

# **Sporting News**



### **State Swimming Championships**

Thank you to all parents and students for the fantastic attendance at swimming lessons this term, (even though the weather makes it a "no-brainer"), and the progress of students especially those who have joined the club is amazing! I hope parents continue to take advantage of such a

wonderful 50m swimming facility and I thank Maxine Smith for being so welcoming and accommodating and for the effort she puts into making the pool so inviting.

Thank you also to Brigette Campbell for the expertise she generously shares. The contribution Brigette has made to the swimming skills of not only St Anthony's Students but to many children in the District, cannot be under-estimated and I know that there are many kids that are now safer and more confident around water because of her.

Congratulations to Cayde Miller who has qualified in the 50m freestyle to compete at the State Swimming Championships in January next year. Cayde has recently broken his PB in this event on a number of occasions and is training seriously with the Dimbulah Dolphins to see what he can achieve at State level and we wish him all the very best.



On the last day of term (Friday 7 December), the whole school will be bussed to the pool for a final swim from 9:00am - 10:30am before returning to school for an assembly to end the school year.





### Soccer Cup Challenge

A reminder about the annual Students v Adults/Ex-students soccer match on Thursday 6 December from 9:00am - 10:00am. This is a long-held tradition at St Anthony's and I hope that it won't be too hot for us to field strong teams and attract a vocal audience.

The students have a full team of eager players, but we are still hoping for a few more parents or ex-students who may be able to help the adults display their dominance after a drawn result last year. Please let me know ASAP if you can play.

### Farewell Shared Morning Tea – Ms Grantley

After the Students v Adults/Ex-students soccer match on Thursday 6 December, we invite parent's/community members to join us for a shared morning tea to farewell Ms Grantley who is leaving the school after 7 years of dedicated service to take

up a position at St Thomas's in Mareeba. A cake has been arranged and we have asked students/parents to bring a small plate of food that can be shared between 10:15am – 11:30am. This can be left in the fridges in the kitchen before school if necessary.

#### School Leaders - 2019

I was always confident that whoever was elected to the various leadership roles for next year would be up to the task because of the maturity and energy levels of the current Year 5 Class. Congratulations to Azali and Riley who will take over from Eric and Clancie as School Captains.

I thank Raff, Clint and Cooper for the job they have done as House Captains and welcome Jack, Cayde and Shayla as the new sports leaders. I believe Hazel and Ricki have an important role as JJJ Representative and Student Council President which will focus on social justice issues and Livinia will certainly take on the role of Library Monitor with some authority!

#### On a Personal Note

It is with a sense of sadness but also some excitement, that I announce I will be taking leave for 2019. Over the past 2 weeks a situation has quickly and quite unexpectedly developed whereby my wife Maree and I have agreed to take on the role of House Parents in Julatten for 7 indigenous students from Groote Island. We believe we are in a privileged position with our own children now at Uni to be able to share the opportunities we have enjoyed and hope to make a positive difference in the lives of these children.

I know St Anthony's is in a good position and will be keeping in close contact next year to follow the progress of all of the students and hoping to be able to attend at least some of the big events on the school calendar.

# Prep/1/2 Class

Walking to the post office to post letters to Santa – I hope he writes back!





## Ice Cream Party at the Dimbulah Library







# Year 3/4 Class

As a conclusion of my first full year of teaching, I just wanted to say thank you for your support over this year. I have been

a busy learner too and have thoroughly enjoyed teaching and am grateful to have begun my teaching career in a welcoming, supportive and passionate community. I have had some wonderful teaching moments and I truly hope that I have delivered learning to last a lifetime. I really am looking forward to next year and would like to wish everyone a safe and happy holiday.



## **Playgroup**

What a great year we've had at the Ducklings Playgroup. I would like to thank everyone for coming along and having fun. Hope to see you all in 2019. A very Merry Christmas and Happy and safe New Years.

### Miss Shannah



# **Community News**







#### RHEE TAE KWON DO PLEDGE:

As a student of RHEE Tae Kwon Do I solemnly promise:

- To abide by the rules and regulations of the school

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#### In 2019 RHEE TAE KWON DO Celebrates 43 years training in Dimbulah

Training Sessions: MONDAYS & WEDNESDAYS (INC SCHOOL HOLIDAYS) 6.00pm - 7.00pm Dimbulah Memorial Hall

TRAINING RESTARTS MONDAY 15 JANUARY 2019 Beginners always welcome! First 2 lessons FREE!
Contact Instructors Phil & Gaye
Mobile 0428935357
Email: gaye.cthd.dimbulab@bigp



Well Women's Clinics (These clinics are available to Medicare eligible clients)

Startetia Hospital – Thursday 15th November 2018

Ph: 4092 9311

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